Remarks

Claims 1-60 are pending in the application. Claims 2-7, 20, 22-27, 40, 42-47, and 60 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 8-19, 21, 28-39, 41, and 48-59 are rejected. Claims 1, 8-12, 21, 28-32, 36, 38, 39, 41, 48-52, 54, 56, and 58-59 are amended herein. No new matter is added.

Continued examination was respectfully requested on June 29, 2006 in view of the amendments to claims 1, 8-19, 21, 28-39, 41, and 48-59. The Examiner required an explanation of how the claims overcome the art of record as required by 37 CFR § 1.111.

The Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner to element "c" of amended claim 1, "generating a key at the authenticated client device and the authentication server." In other words, a single key is generated using the two already authenticated devices. In contrast, the See reference teaches using keys configured on each unauthenticated device to achieve mutual authentication. That does not teach what is claimed. The Examiner is directed to his reference to col. 5, lines 43-47, shown below:

Means 410 also transmits and receives information from and to server 320 sufficient to allow agent 400 and server 320 to authenticate one another. Preferably, mutual authentication 45 is accomplished through exchange of authentication keys configured on agent 400 and server 320. Means 410 may

There, it is clear that the keys reside in each of the agent and server prior to authentication, and are used to authenticate. In contrast, the invention uses already authenticated devices to generate a new key that is used, as recited in element "d," for "authenticating a user to a central authentication server using the authenticated client device and the key." The Examiner should

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further note that a user, not a device, is authenticated using the key generated by the two authenticated devices.

The Applicant believes the above remarks clarify a key distinction between the reference and the amended claims. Further, the Applicant asserts that See can never anticipate what is claimed for at least the reasons stated above.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should further questions arise concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number listed below. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 50-3650.

Respectfully submitted, 3Com Corporation,

By A

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